MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS
WOLVERINE
VS.
THE INCREDIBLE HULK
MARVEL COMICS
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PLUS 3 MORE ALL-NEW FEATURES!

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS

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WOLVERINE ..... Page 1

On The Road
Part 8 of 8
"INSTANT KARMA"

The sensational, senses - shattering conclusion to the multi - part epic! The Hulk is on a *rampage* and Wolverine must join forces with the Mimic in order to stave off his fevered attack! Will they find the answers they've been seeking for so long, or will they merely find ... DESTRUCTION?! The ending awaits!

Writer – MICHAEL HIGGINS
Penciler – DAVE ROSS
Inker – DAN DAY
Letterer – TODD KLEIN
Colorist – BRAD VANCATA

POISON ..... Page 9

Vandals of the Heart
Part 2 of 8
"HIGH HORROR"

Joe Trinity is a mess: destitute, deranged, living on the street. And now his very soul is in peril. His madness has opened a psychic door into another world and allowed him to make contact with a powerful alien entity he calls "Myrna," who speaks to him through the head of a mop. In the ongoing torment that comprises his life, Joe Trinity has only one thing on his side. He's a victim of love, and Poison is determined to punish those who have vandalized his heart.

Writer – STEVE GERBER
Art – CINDY MARTIN
Letterer – TIM HARKINS
Colorist – CHRIS IVY

SCARLET WITCH ..... Page 17

Separate Lives
Part 2 of 4
"A PIRATE'S LIFE FOR ME"

The lovely Mutant Sorceress, the Scarlet Witch, may have met her match. After being lured into trusting Dr. Alder Revery, a Mutant - hating Mystic, her Astral form has been ripped from her body and thrust into the Void, towards – what?!

Story / Art – RICH HOWELL

DR. STRANGE ..... Page 25

"THE LIBRARIAN"

He was once a surgeon – an arrogant man - of - the - world seduced by material wealth. Then when a tragic accident deprived him of his surgical skills, Stephen Strange discovered a separate reality, a higher plane of Occult forces in eternal conflict. Vowing to be Earth's first line of defense against magical menace, the erstwhile physician became Earth's foremost master of the Mystic Arts ... Dr. Strange, Sorcerer Supreme!

Writer – PETER GILLIS
Penciler – CHRIS TSUDA
Inker – MIKE DeCARLO
Letterer – JOHN MORELLI
Colorist – BARRY GOLDBERG

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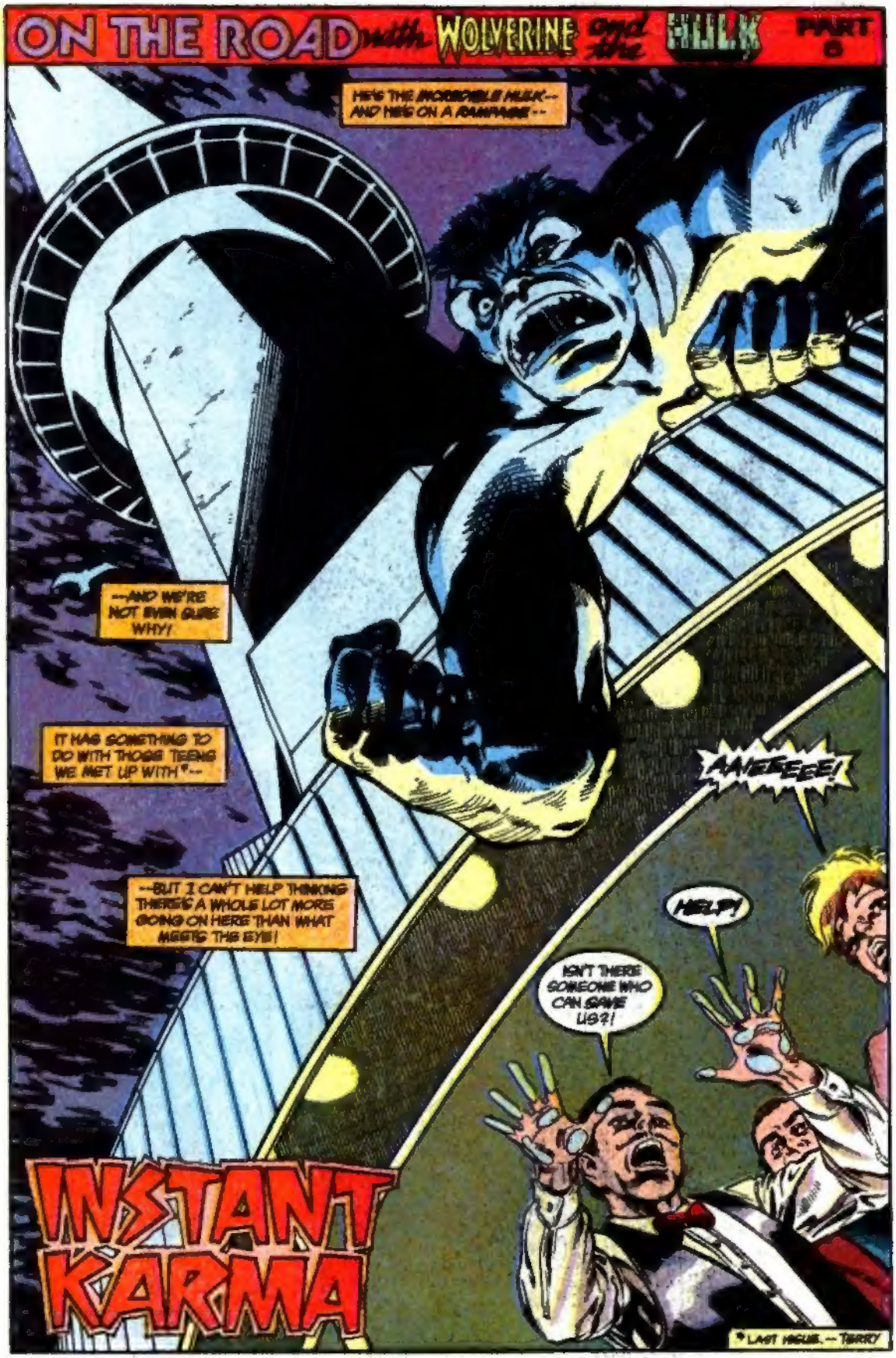

ON THE ROAD with WOLVERINE and the HULK
PART 6
HE'S THE INCREDIBLE HULK--AND HE'S ON A RAMPAGE--
--AND WE'RE NOT EVEN SURE WHY!
IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THOSE TEENS WE MET UP WITH*--
--BUT I CAN'T HELP THINKING THERE'S A WHOLE LOT MORE GOING ON HERE THAN WHAT MEETS THE EYE!
AAEEEEE!
HELP!
ISN'T THERE SOMEONE WHO CAN SAVE US?!
INSTANT KARMA
* LAST ISSUE. -- TERRY

WE'RE CERTAINLY GOING TO TRY!
IT'S A LONG CLIMB--WE CAN'T JUST LEAP UP THERE LIKE THIS HULK DID! HOPE WE MAKE IT UP THERE BEFORE HE DOES SOMETHING DRASTIC.
I'M WOLVERINE. MY COMPANION, HE'S CALVIN RANKIN--THE MIMIC--AN' UNTIL NOW HE WAS THE PROBLEM!
NOT ANYMORE--OR, AT LEAST, NOT AT THIS MOMENT! WE'VE BEEN PUMPING HIM WITH TRANQUILIZERS TO KEEP HIM FROM GOING MAD!
NOW THE PROBLEM'S BIGGER--GRAYER! BUT, HOW LONG BEFORE CAL FREAKS OUT AGAIN?!
YOU GOING TO BE ABLE TO MAKE IT?
I'M NOT COMPLETELY CERTAIN WHY, WOLVERINE--
--BUT I'M PERFECTLY ALL RIGHT!
YOU'LL FORGIVE ME IF I'M A BIT SKEPTICAL...?
TRASH THOSE WORRIES!
I WAS DEPUTY LEADER OF THE X-MEN YEARS BEFORE ANY OF US EVER EVEN HEARD OF YOU!
I HAD OTHER BUSINESS TO TAKE CARE OF BACK THEN--
I AM WELL AWARE.
--AND WE'VE GOT OTHER BUSINESS TO TAKE CARE OF RIGHT NOW!

STAY AWAY FROM ME--
RRRNNNCH
--OR I'LL KILL YOU!
SKLAT
TERK-LINK-LINCH
SNIK
SNIKT
EVEN SLICING AND DICING THAT HUNK OF METAL WOULDN'T HAVE DONE MUCH GOOD--
--'LESS THE COPS WERE HOLDIN' BACK THE CROWD. A LOT OF INNOCENT BYSTANDERS COULD HAVE JUST DIED...
WHY DO PEOPLE FEEL THE NEED TO PUT THEMSELVES INTO SITUATIONS OF POTENTIAL DANGER?
YOU'RE ASKIN' ME?!
I TOLD YOU CREEPS TO STAY AWAY--

--AN' I MEANT IT!
KROMP

N-NEVER BEEN HIT LIKE THAT BY ANYONE--
--NOT EVEN THE HULK!
HE'S MORE ENRAGED THAN EVER--I BARELY SURVIVED.
THAT BIG, GRAY MONSTER MEANS BUSINESS!
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE WOLVERINE DOES, TOO!
GET OFF ME!

SORRY, BUB! NO WAY!
NOT UNLESS YOU CALM DOWN--COME TO YOUR SENSES!
EEYAARRRGHHH!

I'M GOING TO HATE DOING THIS TO YOU, PAL--
--BUT WHAT OTHER CHOICE IS THERE? THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE DOWN THERE...

...AND I CAN'T LET THEM--
HUNH?!
I JUST SUGGEST YOU JUMP ABOARD!
AND BE CAREFUL! IT'S A LONG WAY DOWN!
WH-WHAT'S GOING ON?!
STOP ASKING ME THE TOUGH QUESTIONS, KID.
IT'S LIKE HE'S STUCK--FOLLOWING AN OUTSIDE COMMAND!
NO KIDDIN', SHERLOCK!
FIRST THE FUNKY LIGHT SHOW--OR WHATEVER IT IS--
--AH' NOW, THAT SUPERSONIC SIGNAL!
SIGNAL?
WHAT SIGNAL?
WAIT A MINUTE! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? HE'S GOT TO BE ABLE TO HEAR IT--IF I CAN! RIGHT NOW, WE'VE GOT THE SAME POWERS!
THIS JUST DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!
FWUMP
ANY IDEA WHERE GRUESOME'S TAKEN US?
OH, MY--!
I KNOW EXACTLY WHERE WE ARE!

THIS IS THE SITE OF MY FATHER'S HIDDEN LAB...
...THE PLACE WHERE I FIRST ENCOUNTERED THE HULK!
BUT--WHY WOULD THE HULK COME BACK HERE?
I'D SAY... SOMEONE CALLED HIM HERE!
HEY! WHAT GIVES?!
UNNNHHH!
WH-WHERE AM I?
LOOKS LIKE THE HULK IS BACK TO NORMAL--
--WELL... NORMAL FOR THE HULK, THAT IS!
BUT NOW WHAT'S HAPPENING?!
IT--IT CAN'T BE!
FATHER?!

CRIPES! NOTHING CAN STAY THE SAME AROUND HERE FOR VERY LONG! NOW THE HULK IS CHANGING BACK TO BANNER!
I DIDN'T EVEN THINK IT WAS TIME YET! MAYBE IT'S SOME SORT OF AFTER-EFFECT-- OR MAYBE IT'S SOMETHING TO DO WITH BEING DEEP INSIDE THIS PARTICULAR CAVE.
AT ANY RATE, RIGHT NOW, I'M GLAD TO HAVE THE DOCTOR AROUND!
FATHER-- YOU'RE READY
INDEED, SON... FOR MANY YEARS NOW. WHAT YOU SEE IS MERELY A HOLOGRAPHIC IMAGE.

I WAS... APPREHENSIVE ABOUT WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN TO YOU AFTER I WAS GONE!
AND SO, A PART OF ME-- MY PULSE... MY ESSENCE-- HAS CONTINUED TO LIVE ON IN THIS COMPLEX MACHINERY. I STILL WATCH OVER YOU.
I THOUGHT I HAD SUCCEEDED IN REMOVING YOUR POWERS FOR ALL TIME*...
...AND WAS READY TO DEACTIVATE THE VERY MACHINERY THAT KEPT MY THOUGHT PROCESSES ALIVE-- BUT YOUR POWERS WERE RESTORED, AND YOU WERE GOING OUT OF CONTROL!** SO I BEGAN TO GENERATE A PERPETUAL PULSING BEACON THAT WOULD KEEP YOU UNDER CONTROL...
...THAT IS, AT LEAST WHILE YOU REMAINED WITHIN RANGE. THE REAL TROUBLE BEGAN ONCE YOU VENTURED OUTSIDE OF ITS SCOPE!
THAT EXPLAINS WHY I WAS AWARE OF THE BEACON EARLIER AND CAL WASN'T!
IT HAD BECOME AN ALMOST INTRINSIC PART OF HIS LIFE! HE PAID AS MUCH ATTENTION TO THAT AS I PAY TO MY OWN BREATHING!
HEY, GUYS, WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM OVER HERE!
* "THE HULK VS. DR. --TERROR"
** "THE HULK VS. --TERROR"

I AM WELL AWARE OF THE SITUATION, DR. BANNER! IN ORDER TO MAKE THIS IMAGE APPEAR TO YOU, I'M AFRAID I STRONGLY OVERTAXED THE LIMITS OF THIS MACHINERY.

I SEE, WOLVERINE, THAT AT LEAST SOME OF MY EFFORTS PAID OFF.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THERE IS SO MUCH MORE I COULD TELL YOU, BUT THERE ISN'T TIME *!
FATHER! NO--!

TOO LATE! HE'S GONE-- AND SO ARE MOST OF THESE CIRCUITS!
YOUR FATHER WAS QUITE A MAN. I KNOW HOW DIFFICULT IT MUST BE FOR YOU TO FEEL HIS LOSS AGAIN. BUT NOTHING HE'S DONE HAS BEEN IN VAIN!

WE NOW KNOW WHY YOUR POWERS WENT OUT OF CONTROL!
AND WE CAN REPAIR MOST OF THIS DAMAGE!
I--I DON'T KNOW, DR. BANNER.
BEING DEPENDENT ON MACHINERY FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE IS ALMOST AS BAD AS BEING DEPENDENT ON THE DRUGS!
ISN'T THERE SOME WAY I CAN EVER BE FREE?

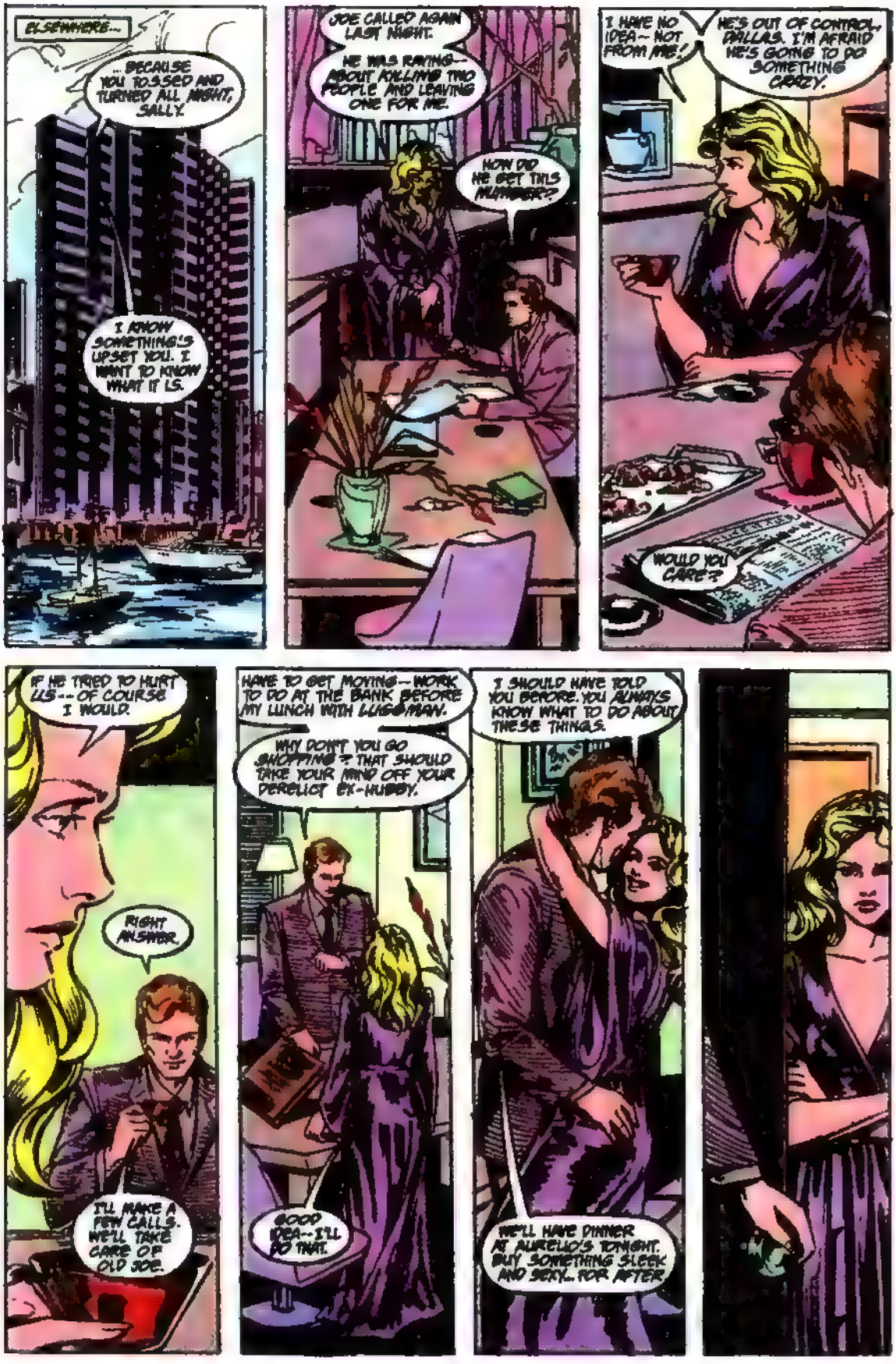
YOU CAN TRY, PAL, AND AT LEAST YOU HAVE YOUR FATHER'S NUTS AND BOLTS TO FALL BACK ON-- IF YOU NEED IT!
I WASN'T SO LUCKY... BUT I'LL TELL YOU WHAT WORKED FOR ME.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

AFTER I EXPLAINED MYSELF, WE ALL WENT OUR SEPARATE WAYS... AND CAL STARTED RIGHT IN ON BUILDING WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT.
IT WASN'T MORE MACHINERY.
AND, HAVING BEEN PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HORROR CALVIN HAD BEEN FORCED TO LIVE WITH FOR SO LONG, I FELT GOOD.
I THOUGHT MAYBE NOW I'D BECOME PART OF THE SOLUTION.

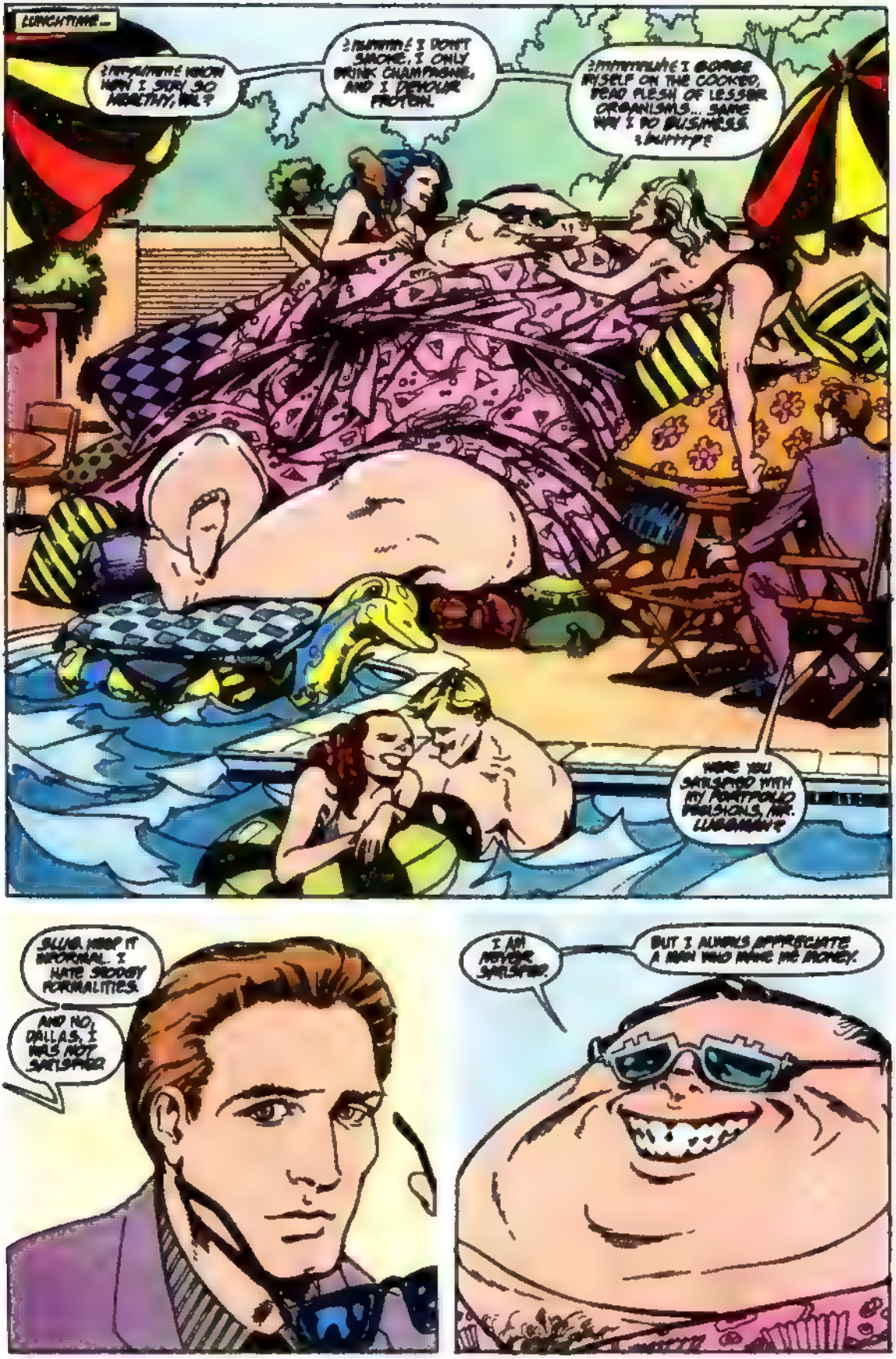
PERHAPS, AT LONG LAST, HE KNOWS... PEACE.
THE END.

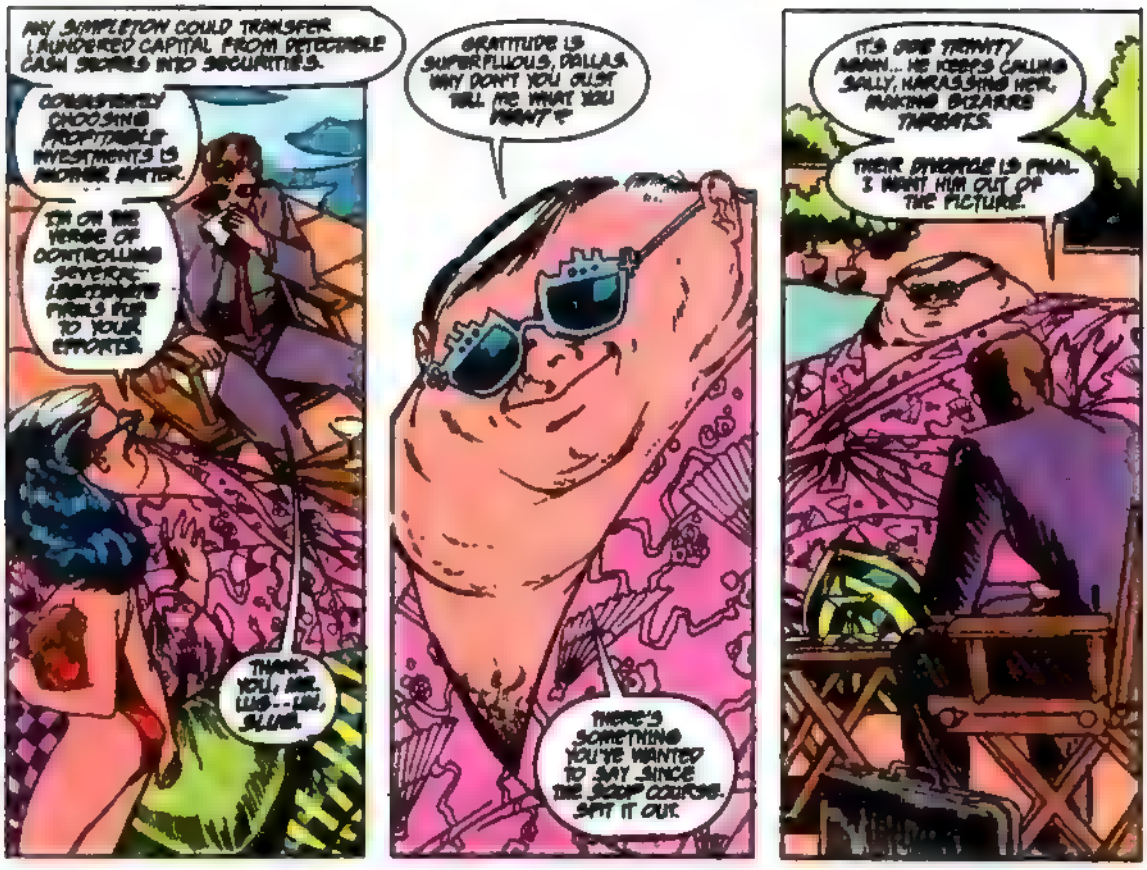
VANDALS OF THE HEART
chapter 2
HIGH HORROR
FEATURING:
POISON
WENT OUT LAST NIGHT, DIDN'T YOU... AFTER I FELL ASLEEP?
FOR A LITTLE WHILE--I GUESS.
OH, YEAH? THEN HOW COME YOUR EYES AREN'T OPEN YET?
YOU ONLY HAD THREE CUPS OF COFFEE!
MAMA SAYS YOU'RE SEEIN' SOMEBODY... A MAN.
ARE YOU?
NO, CARLOS. NOT THE WAY MAMA MEANS.
YOUR BUS IS COMING. DO YOU HAVE EVERYTHING--BOOKS, YOUR HOMEWORK?
WHERE DO YOU GO SO LATE?
HOW COME YOU LEAVE ME ALONE?
HOW COME YOU WON'T TELL ME...?
BECAUSE YOU ARE NOT YET READY TO KNOW.
NOW GO--AND BRING ME HOME AN 'A'!

POISON IS A WARRIOR.
CECILIA CARDINALE IS A MOTHER-- WITH RESPONSIBILITIES.
I DO NOT KNOW WHICH PART OF ME IS MORE REAL.
IT IS LIKE ASKING WHICH IS GREATER, MY LOVE FOR CARLOS--
--OR MY CONTEMPT FOR HIS FATHER'S COWARDICE.
EACH MAKES THE OTHER STRONGER.
EACH MAKES ME STRONGER.
BUT ONLY MY LOVE MATTERS TO CARLOS.
THIS I NEVER FORGET.
NO. THAT IS NOT TRUE. I DO SOMETIMES.
WHEN MY ATTENTION IS MOST CENTERED-- AS I WAS TAUGHT BY THE ABBESS, YLANDRIS-- I FORGET NEARLY EVERYTHING.
--EXCEPT WHATEVER MUST BE DONE TO BEAT THE ENEMY.
OTHERWISE, I WOULD DIE.
IF I WISH TO BE TOUCHED, I WILL TELL YOU-- COMPRENDEZ?
I REMEMBER, SI, AMIGA, SI--!

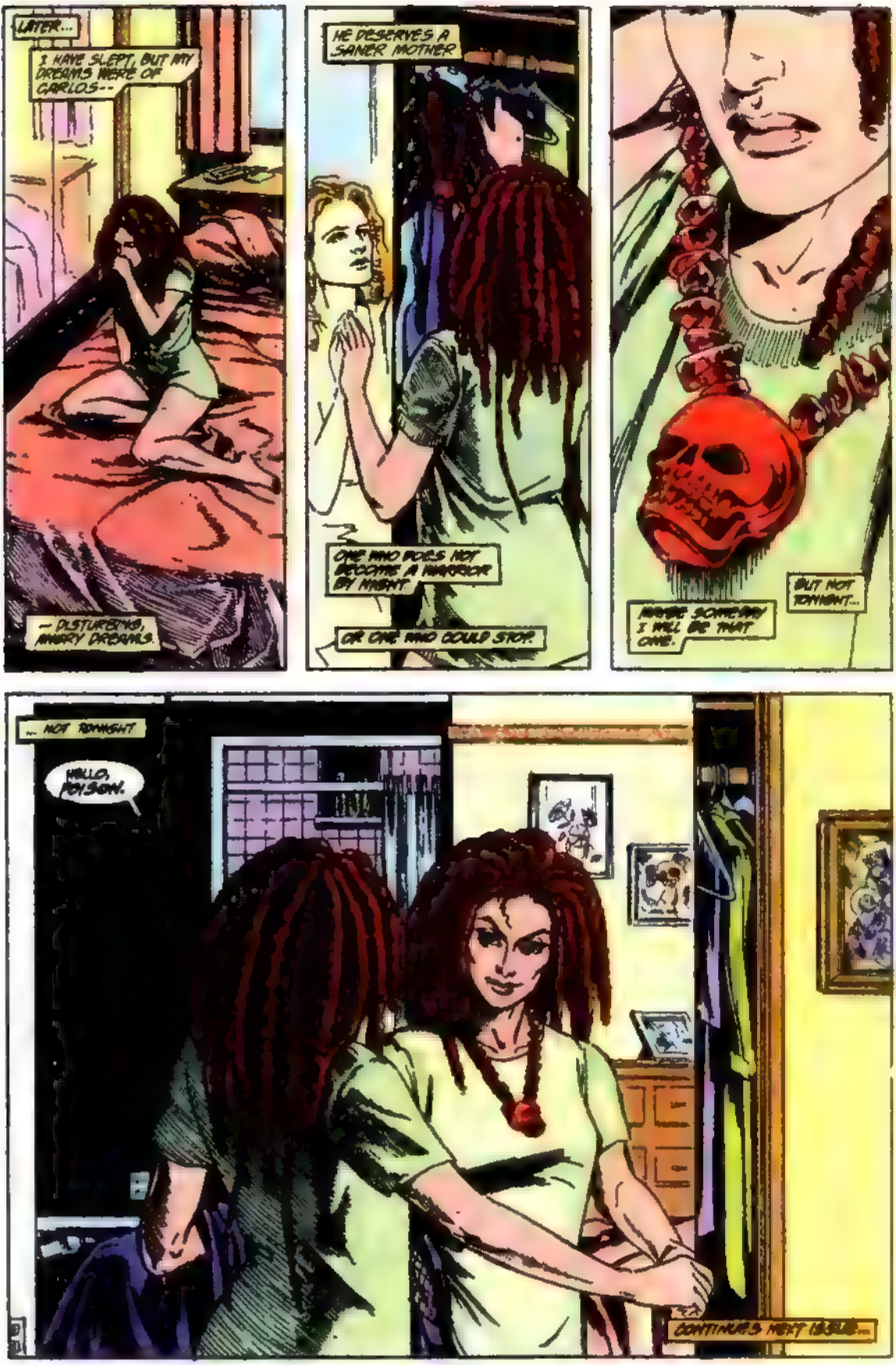

ELSEWHERE...
...BECAUSE YOU TOSSED AND TURNED ALL NIGHT, SALLY.
I KNOW SOMETHING'S UPSET YOU. I WANT TO KNOW WHAT IT IS.
JOE CALLED AGAIN LAST NIGHT.
HE WAS RAVING--ABOUT KILLING TWO PEOPLE AND LEAVING ONE FOR ME.
HOW DID HE GET THIS NUMBER?
I HAVE NO IDEA--NOT FROM ME!
HE'S OUT OF CONTROL, DALLAS. I'M AFRAID HE'S GOING TO DO SOMETHING CRAZY.
WOULD YOU CARE?
IF HE TRIED TO HURT US--OF COURSE I WOULD.
RIGHT ANSWER.
I'LL MAKE A FEW CALLS. WE'LL TAKE CARE OF OLD JOE.
HAVE TO GET MOVING--WORK TO DO AT THE BANK BEFORE MY LUNCH WITH LUIGI-MAN.
WHY DON'T YOU GO SHOPPING? THAT SHOULD TAKE YOUR MIND OFF YOUR DERELICT EX-HUBBY.
GOOD IDEA--I'LL DO THAT.
I SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU BEFORE. YOU ALWAYS KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT THESE THINGS.
WE'LL HAVE DINNER AT AURELIO'S TONIGHT. BUY SOMETHING SLEEK AND SEXY...FOR AFTER

-- SOMETHING ABOUT AN OLD MAN WITH A HOE?
THAT'S ALL HE'LL SAY.
I WISH I COULD BE OF MORE HELP LIEUTENANT HARRIS.
SO DO I, MAC.
WHAT DO YOU FIGURE REALLY HAPPENED TO MR. ALCAZAR?
IT LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE CRAMMED HIS HEAD INTO A BAG OF RED-HOT ROBBER BLANKS-- AND SHOOK THE BAG.
SEEMS UNLIKELY, DON'T IT?
YES. IT SURELY DOES.
IT ALSO DOESN'T EXPLAIN THE BULLETIN- SOMEBODY PUMPED IN HIS TWO ARMS.
NO EXIT WOUNDS. NO BULLETS.
"PUMPED"?
LET ME KNOW WHEN HE'S IN ANY SHAPE TO TALK.
I NEVER TALK-- ONE MORE FLOWERY DESCRIPTION...
...JUST WHEN THE TRAIL WAS HEATIN' UP ON LAWRENCE'S MURDER, FORTHRIGHT...!
SPITAL
thorough!
COP ALWAYS TELL 'EM BY THEIR SHOES!
GONNA GET GOOD NOW. KEEP DRAWIN'...

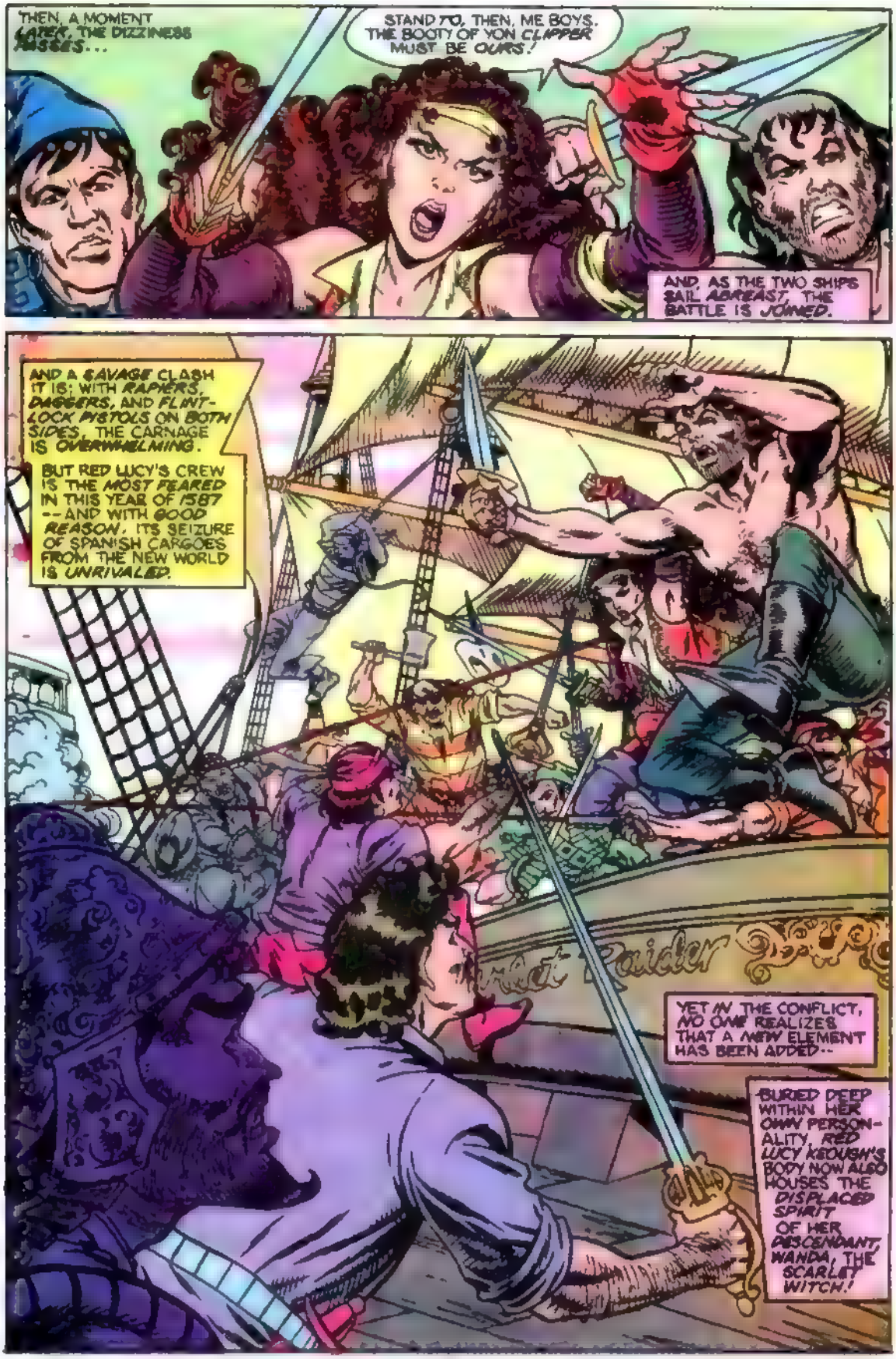

LUNCHTIME...
MMMMMM! I KNOW HOW I STAY SO HEALTHY, WIL?
MMMMMM! I DON'T SMOKE, I ONLY DRINK CHAMPAGNE, AND I DEVOUR PROTEIN.
MMMMMM! I GORGE MYSELF ON THE COOKED, DEAD FLESH OF LESSER ORGANISMS... SAME WAY I DO BUSINESS.
BURP!
HOPE YOU SATISFIED WITH MY PORTFOLIO PERSONALS, MR. LUBERMAN?
SLUG. HRMP IT INFORMAL. I HATE SNOOTY FORMALITIES.
AND NO, DALLAS, I WAS NOT SATISFIED!
I AM NEVER SATISFIED!
BUT I ALWAYS APPRECIATE A MAN WHO MAKE ME MONEY.


ANY SIMPLETON COULD TRANSFER LAUNDERED CAPITAL FROM DETECTABLE CASH SOURCES INTO SECURITIES.
CONSISTENTLY CHOOSING PROFITABLE INVESTMENTS IS ANOTHER MATTER.
I'M ON THE VERGE OF CONTROLLING SEVERAL LUCRATIVE FIRMS DUE TO YOUR EFFORTS.
THANK YOU, MR. LUD--LUL, SLUD.
GRATITUDE IS SUPERFLUOUS, DALLAS. WHY DON'T YOU JUST TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT?
THERE'S SOMETHING YOU'VE WANTED TO SAY SINCE THE SCOOP COUPON. SPIT IT OUT.
IT'S JOE TRINITY AGAIN... HE KEEPS CALLING SALLY, HARASSING HER, MAKING BIZARRE THREATS.
THEIR DIVORCE IS FINAL. I WANT HIM OUT OF THE PICTURE.
YES, YES-- YOU TOOK HIS MONEY AS WELL AS HIS JOB, DIDN'T YOU?
HE MUSTN'T ALLOW SUCH SPLENDID AUDACITY TO BE APPREHENDED!
YOU'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM, THEN?
NATURALLY. I CAN'T AFFORD TO HAVE YOU DISTRACTED FROM YOUR WORK.
YOU WON'T BE SORRY...!
I NEVER AM. NEVER SATISFIED. NEVER SORRY.

SOME HOURS LATER...
THE SLOVENLINESS OF SOME PEOPLE DEFIES ALL REASON.
CLEANING UP AFTER THEM INSULTS MY SPIRIT.
BUT THAT IS WHAT I AM PAID FOR.
A CHILD CANNOT EAT SPIRIT.
CARLOS WILL HAVE A BETTER LIFE THAN THIS.
NOT EASIER--- LIFE IS NOT MEANT TO BE EASY--- BUT BETTER.
MAMA?! YOU ARE GOING OUT TONIGHT AGAIN?
YOU CAN HARDLY STAND UP! YOU'RE SO TIRED!
YOU KNOW HOW STRONG YOUR MAMA IS-- STRONGER THAN YOUR FRIENDS' MOTHERS, YES?
SO THEY STAY HOME AT NIGHT... MOST OF THEM.
YOU WON'T EVEN TELL ME WHERE YOU GO...!
YOU WILL STAY WITH MARIA. I WILL BE BACK BEFORE BEDTIME.
TRY TO BELIEVE... THIS IS SOMETHING I MUST DO


LATER...
I HAVE SLEPT, BUT MY DREAMS WERE OF CARLOS--
-- DISTURBING, ANGRY DREAMS.
HE DESERVES A SANER MOTHER
ONE WHO FEELS NOT BECOME A WARRIOR BY NIGHT
OR ONE WHO COULD STOP.
BUT NOT TONIGHT...
MAYBE SOMEDAY I WILL BE THAT ONE.
... NOT TONIGHT
HELLO, POISON.
CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE...

TWISTING AND TURNING, BUFFETED THROUGH DECADES AND PAST CENTURIES, FALLS THE ASTRAL FORM OF THE
SCARLET WITCH
THRUST BACK INTO TIME BY THE PAST MASTER, WANDA'S SPIRIT TUMBLES FURTHER AND FURTHER BACK FROM ITS OWN ERA --UNTIL . . .
. . . IT FINDS A HOME!
LOOK YONDER, ME HEARTIES!
AND PREPARE FOR BATTLE WITH YON--
UHHHH!
LUCY?
OUR SHOT CROSS THE BOW OF YON SPANISH CLIPPER HAS CAUSED THEM TO COME AROUND FOR COMBAT!
YE CAN'T BE ILL NOW--
CAPTAIN?
--CAN YE?
"A Pirate's Life for Me!"
THE SHIP OF RED LUCY KROUGH-- PIRATE QUEEN!
"YESTERDAYS" PART TWO


THEN, A MOMENT LATER, THE DIZZINESS PASSES...
STAND TO, THEN, ME BOYS. THE BOOTY OF YON CLIPPER MUST BE OURS!
AND, AS THE TWO SHIPS SAIL ABREAST, THE BATTLE IS JOINED.
AND A SAVAGE CLASH IT IS: WITH RAPIERS, DAGGERS, AND FLINT-LOCK PISTOLS ON BOTH SIDES, THE CARNAGE IS OVERWHELMING.
BUT RED LUCY'S CREW IS THE MOST FEARED IN THIS YEAR OF 1587 --AND WITH GOOD REASON. ITS SEIZURE OF SPANISH CARGOES FROM THE NEW WORLD IS UNRIVALED.
YET IN THE CONFLICT, NO ONE REALIZES THAT A NEW ELEMENT HAS BEEN ADDED--
BURIED DEEP WITHIN HER OWN PERSONALITY, RED LUCY KEOUGH'S BODY NOW ALSO HOUSES THE DISPLACED SPIRIT OF HER DESCENDANT, WANDA, THE SCARLET WITCH!

LUCY IS A WORTHY ANCESTOR. ALTHOUGH HER RANK IS MANLY DEPENDENT ON HER STRATEGIC EXPERTISE, SHE IS UNDOUBTABLY THE FINEST SWORDSWOMAN OF HER TIME.
UNDER HER LEADERSHIP, HER CREW IS SPURRED TO SUPERB FEATS OF SKILL AND DARING. THUS, IN A SHORT TIME...
VICTORY IS OURS, SPANIARD!
YOUR CARGO OF SPICES, SILKS, AND PEARLS IS OURS NOW--NOT KING PHILIP'S!
SURRENDER --AND I WILL SPARE YOUR LIFE, AND YOUR CREW'S LIVES!
I... DID NOT EXPECT THIS, CAPTAIN... BUT...
I... SURRENDER!
SPARE THE CREW? CAPTAIN, HAVE YE GONE DAFT?
PUT 'EM TO THE BLADE!
LUCY, WE GIVE NO QUARTER! WOULD YE HAVE US GO SOFT?
BELAY THAT TALK! TAKING THE LIFE OF A CONQUERED FOE IS OUR WAY NO LONGER!
ANY OF YE WHO THINKS TO LEAD THIS CREW BETTER CAN CHALLENGE ME ANY TIME.
I CHALLENGE YE, LUCY! THY WOMANLY WEAKNESS FINALLY HAS OVERCOME THY JUDGMENT!
I DON'T SEE YE DECRYING MY WOMANLINESS WHEN WE HAUL IN THE SPOILS, AARON--
--BUT I'LL BROOK NO DISSIPENTS AMONG MY CREW!

I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT WOMEN HAD NO PLACE ON A SAILIN' SHIP!
I DOUBT THE REST O' O' THE CREW WOULD AGREE, AARON --
--WHAT WITH US BEIN' THE RICHEST PIRATES IN THE TRADE--
--ALL UNDER MY LEADER-SHIP!

WE NOW SHOW MERCY TO OUR FOES, AARON. OUR AIM IS BOOTY, NOT BLOOD-LETTING!
YE'D NOT HAVE ME SLAUGHTER ALL I CONQUER, WOULD YE?
N-NO LUCY! YE BE OUR CAPTAIN!

THIS BE THE WAY FOR ALL OF US ON THE SCARLET RAIDER HENCE! OUR AIM IS PLUNDER --AND WE PLUNDER WITHOUT SLAUGHTER!
SAY YE ARE W' ME, BUCKOS!
WE FOLLOW YOUR LEAD, LUCY!
THEN WE LOOT THE SPANISH SHIP--AND SEND THE SURVIVORS AFLOAT! TO IT, THEN!
YET, AS THE SCARLET RAIDER'S CREW FOLLOWS THEIR LEADER'S ORDERS, THEY CANNOT HELP BUT WONDER ABOUT THE CHANGE IN THE FORMERLY MERCILESS PIRATE QUEEN

AND, THOUGH THEY CONTINUE TO WONDER ABOUT THEIR CAPTAIN'S CHANGE OF HEART, IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOW, IT HAS NO EFFECT ON HER ZEAL FOR LIBERATING PLUNDER FROM THE SPANISH SHIPPERS.
THE SCARLET RAIDER CONTINUES TO AMASS WORLDLY TREASURES:
SUGAR FROM THE WEST INDIES, HIDES AND PEARLS FROM HISPANIOLA; COCOA AND TOBACCO FROM CHILE AND MEXICO; GOLD AND SILVER BULLION FROM PERU; AND SPICES AND SILKS FROM THE ORIENT.
YET EVEN AMIDST ALL HER WEALTH, THE PIRATE QUEEN HAS OTHER CONCERNS --AND IN DUE COURSE SHE MAKES ONE OF HER REGULAR PILGRIMAGES TO THE NORMANDY COAST.
I WON'T BE LONG, FRANCIS!

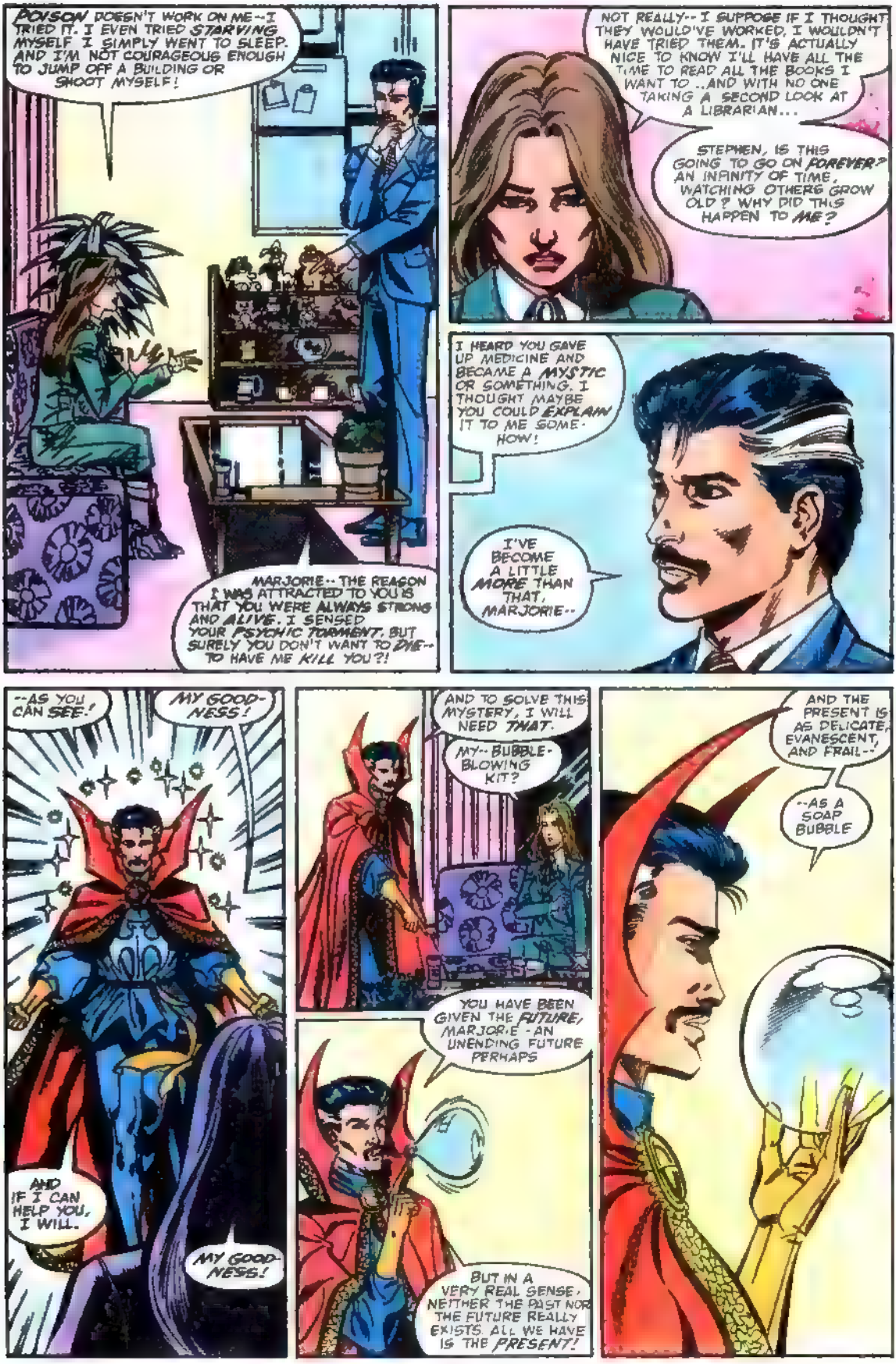
LEAVING HER MOST TRUSTED CREWMAN BEHIND, SHE STRIDES THROUGH THE DARKENED GLADES TO A NEARBY COTTAGE...
HO! VIVIENNE!
I HAVE BEEN AWAITING YOU, LUCY.
YOU HAVE BROUGHT MORE GOLD TO ME--FOR ME TO WATCH OVER YOUR REAL TREASURES?
YES, VIVIENNE. YOUR DEDICATED SERVICE IS WORTH THE HIGH WAGES I PAY--
--TO MAKE SURE MY CHILDREN ARE SAFE!
LUCY'S TWINS REST QUIETLY IN THEIR CRADLES --LITTLE QUENTIN AND LENORE, KEPT APART FROM THE FREEBOOTING LIFE OF THEIR INFAMOUS MOTHER.
AND FOR A TIME, THE DREADED RED LUCY BECOMES JUST LIKE ANY OTHER MOTHER--COOING AND CARING ABOUT NOTHING SO MUCH AS HER MOST PRECIOUS OF CONCERNS...
BUT THIS QUIET TIME IN HER VIOLENT LIFE MUST PASS...
...AND THE PIRATE QUEEN MUST RETURN TO HER CHOSEN CAREER--
KEEP THEM WELL, VIVIENNE!
AU REVOIR, LUCY!
--A LIFE IN WHICH SHE MUST KEEP EVER ALERT--

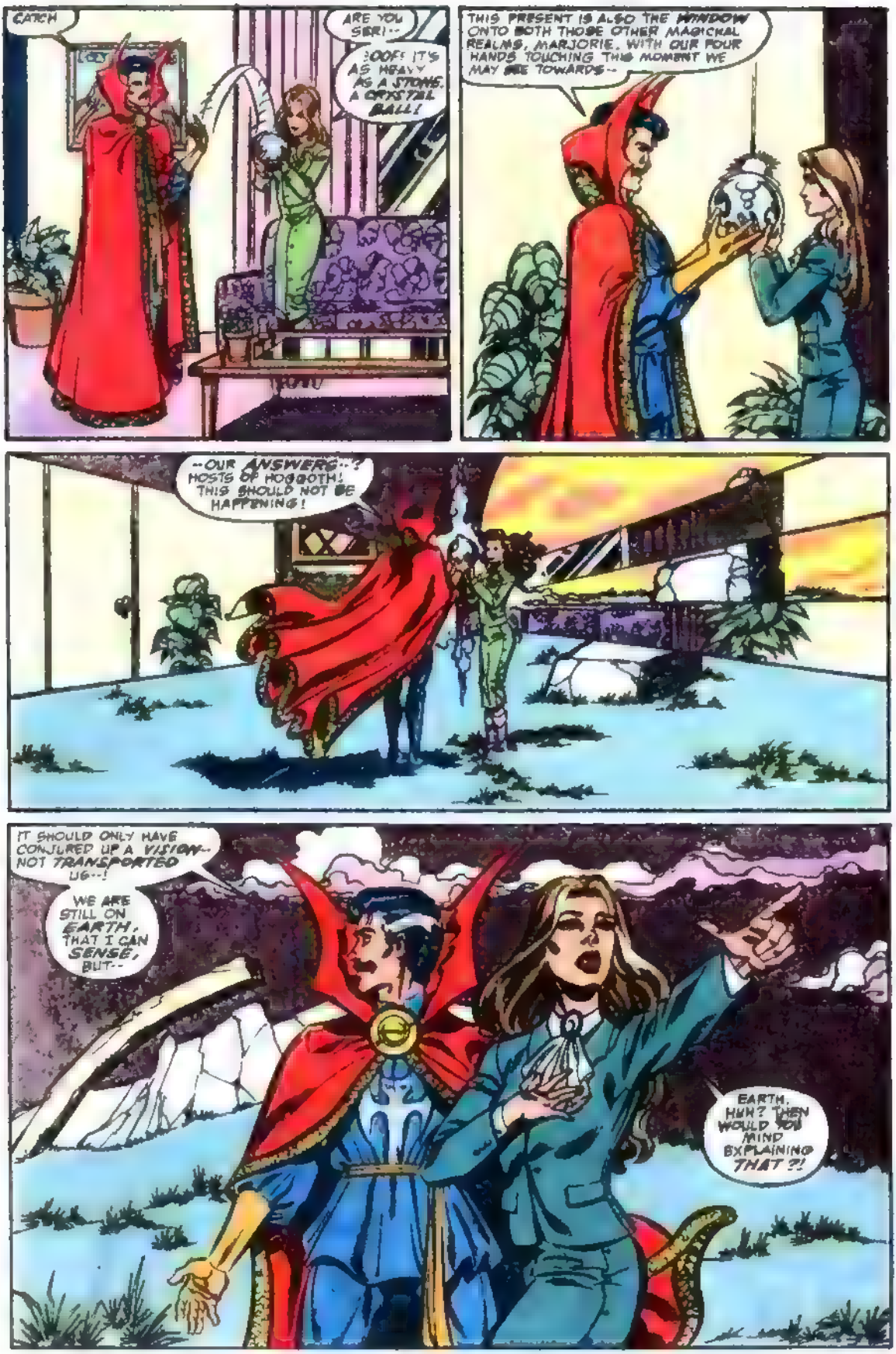
-- LEST HER ENEMIES OVERTAKE HER!
GOT 'ER, VASQUEZ!
WE CAUGHT 'ER DAYDREAMIN'!
SHE DID COME BACK HERE --JUST LIKE WE HEARD!
WHA--?
HOLD HER, YOU FOOLS! SHE'S A STRUGGLING HELLCAT!!
WHO ARE YE, MAN? WHY ARE YOU AFTER ME?
YOU DISAPPOINT ME, LUCY-- THAT YE'D NOT REMEMBER THE FIRST SPANISH CAPTAIN WHOSE LIFE YE SPARED!
AND THIS IS HOW YE REPAY THAT?
SI, LUCY--IN DEATH, I WOULD HAVE BEEN A FALLEN HERO--
--BUT HUMILIATED BY A WOMAN PIRATE, I WAS AS ONE WORSE THAN DEAD!
YE HAVE DESTROYED MY LIFE-- AND FOR THAT...
...ONLY YOUR LIFE WILL SUFFICE AS PAYMENT!
YOU-- COWARD!
PREPARE TO FEEL THE KISS OF THE BLADE, LUCY!
I'LL--
YOU CAN DO NOTHING!
NO!
VASQUEZ, SOMETHIN'S HAPPENIN' TO HER!
NO!
MADRE DI DIOS!
NO!

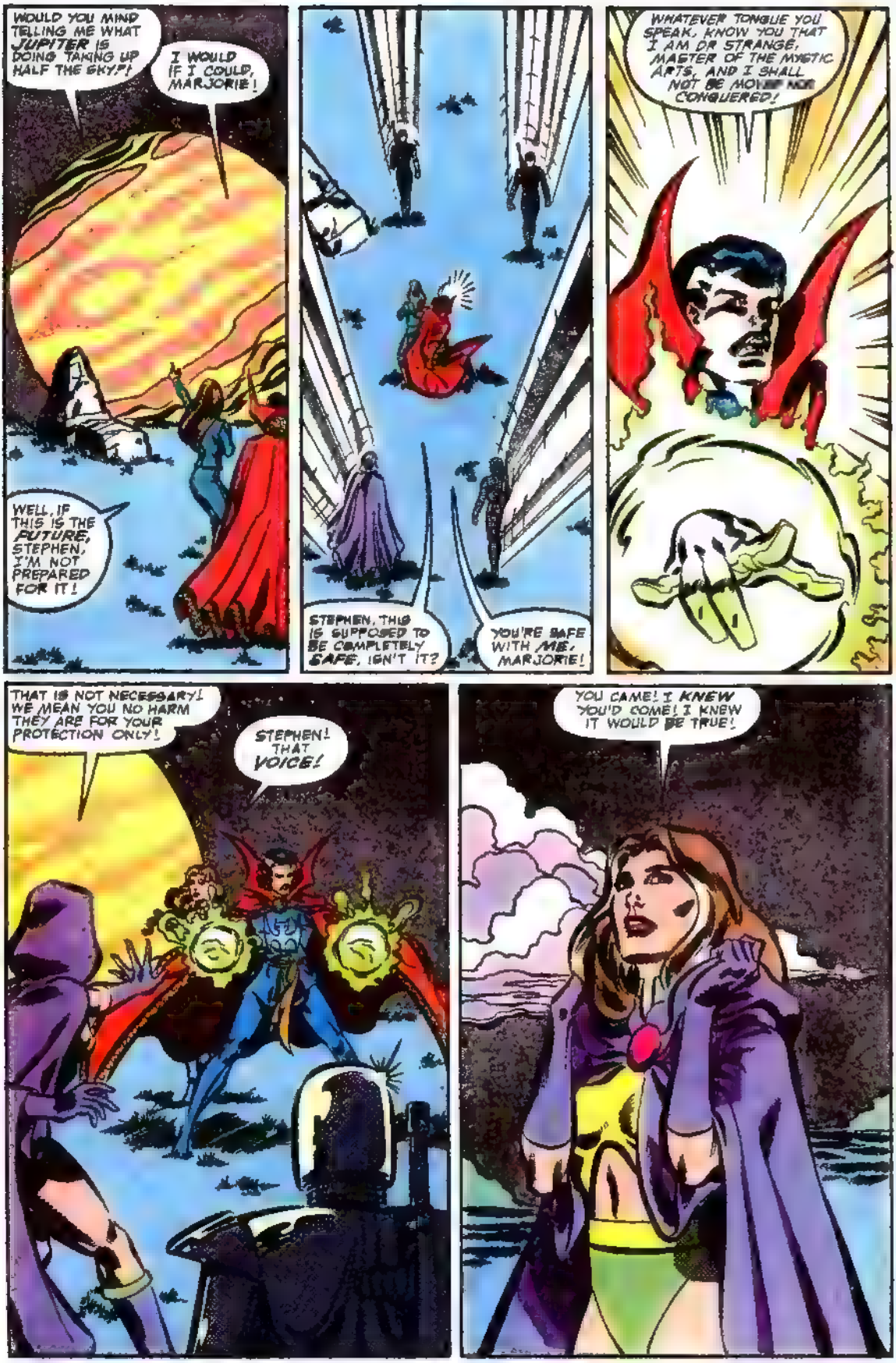
MY MIND'S AWAKE AGAIN! I REMEMBER EVERYTHING!
THERE'S ANOTHER SPIRIT INSIDE ME! I CAN FEEL IT!
BUT WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?
SO WITH ONE FIERCE THRUST, WANDA'S SPIRIT IS RELEASED FROM ITS BONDAGE OF SLEEP, AND TWO WOMEN'S SPIRITS CO-EXIST IN LUCY'S BODY!
YOU ARE... SO LIKE ME! WE MUST BE FAMILY! CAN THIS BE?
I WILL, RED LUCY, ALTHOUGH ONLY YOU CAN HEAR MY VOICE!
SPEAK TO ME, SPIRIT!
I AM YOUR DESCENDANT! MY NAME IS WANDA!
I COME FROM THE YEAR 1989!
AND IN THE COLD CHILL BREEZE OF THE ENGLISH CHANNEL, THE MUTANT AVENGER AND HER ANCESTOR DISCOVER THE DEPTHS OF ALDER REVERY'S VENGEFUL DREAM...
...AND THEIR CHANCES OF RESTORING THE SITUATION TO ANGHTS.
MY MUTANT HEX MIGHT REVERSE REVERY'S TRANCE AND SEND ME BACK TO MY OWN TIME...
...BUT I DON'T THINK I HAVE ENOUGH POWER!
I THINK I CAN HELP, SCARLET WITCH-- AND I SHALL!
AS WE ARE OF ONE FORM, WE WILL SHARE THIS QUEST, THE SCARLET WITCH WILL RETURN TO HER OWN BODY ... IN HER OWN TIME!
SO SWEARS THE SCARLET WITCH!
SO SWEARS RED LUCY KEOUGH!
CONTINUES NEXT ISSUE: THE FAMILY JEWELS

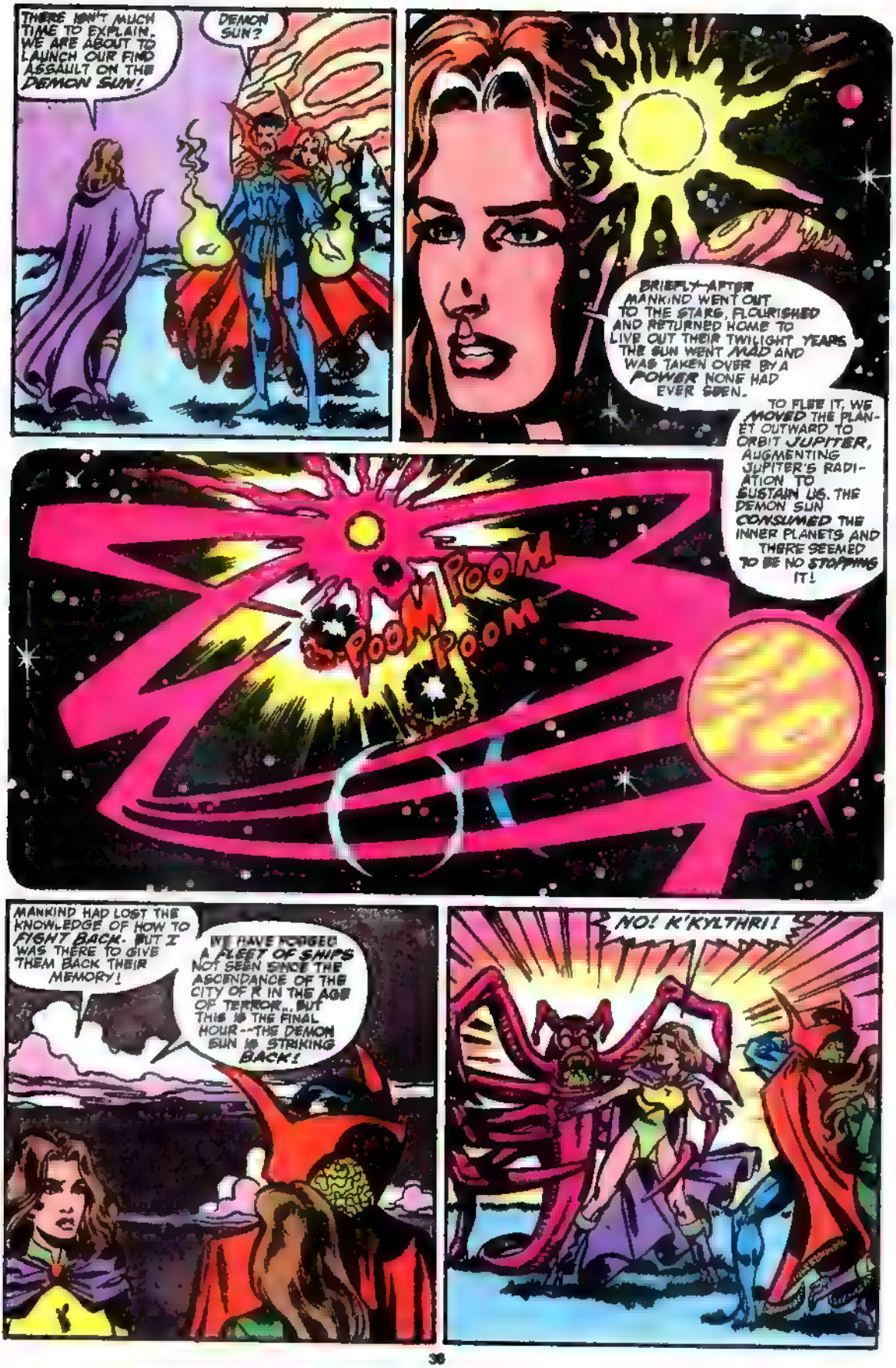
EXCUSE ME, I'M LOOKING FOR THE REFERENCE LIBRARIAN...
I'M MISS BRINK. HOW CAN I HELP YOU?
I'M LOOKING FOR A BOOK ON GAMMA-GLOBULIN IMMUNO-HISTORY--
I'M SURE WE HAVE--
CHECK OUT ONLY
--MARJORIE?
--STEPHEN?!
BOOK RETURN
THE LIBRARIAN
FEATURING:
DR. STRANGE
.0000-.2121
HUSH, MARJORIE. THIS IS A LIBRARY, YOU KNOW!

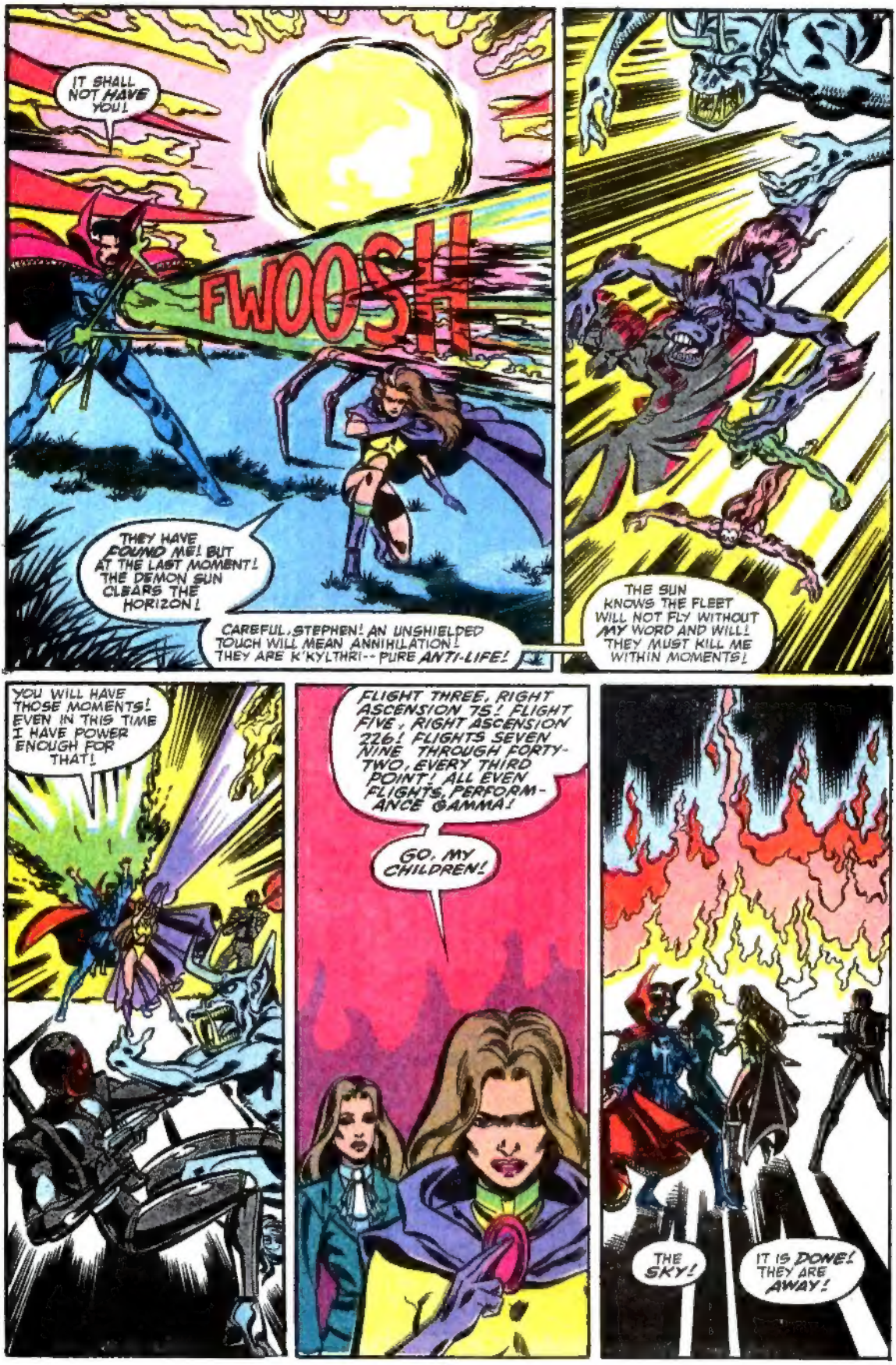
YOU'RE LOOKING GREAT! YOU HAVEN'T AGED A DAY!
NEITHER HAVE YOU.
IS THERE SOMEWHERE WE CAN TALK? IT'S ALMOST LUNCHTIME!
OF COURSE! I HAVE A LITTLE PLACE RIGHT ACROSS THE STREET.
IF YOU DON'T MIND, THAT IS.
A TRIFLE CRAMPED, BUT I MAKE THE MOST OF IT.
MARJORIE --YOU'VE BEEN DYING YOUR HAIR!
MY, THAT WAS BLUNT. NOT A MOUSY ENOUGH BROWN?
I MEANT YOU'VE BEEN DYING IT GRAY.
AH.
MAMIE THAT'S WHY I FELL IN LOVE WITH YOU, STEPHEN. YOU PAY ATTENTION TO A GIRL.
IT STARTED A COUPLE OF YEARS AFTER WE HAD OUR..
"MAMIE RELATIONSHIP"?
--TORRID LITTLE ROMANCE... AND YOU GRADUATED MED SCHOOL. I STARTED EATING A LOT, BUT I DIDN'T GAIN ANY WEIGHT. I NEVER HAD, BUT NOW I WAS TRYING. I NEVER EXERCISED AND YET I NEVER SAGGED LIKE MY CO-WORKERS.
I REMEMBER.
AND WHEN I TRIED EXERCISING, I NEVER GOT ANY STRONGER. NEVER GAINED OR LOST AN INCH. AND MY CUTS AND BRUISES HEALED AMAZINGLY FAST.
IT HIT ME. HOMEOSTASIS-- A COMPLETELY SELF-CORRECTING BODY I WASN'T GETTING ANY OLDER!
STEPHEN, I--
--I THINK I'M IMMORTAL!


POISON DOESN'T WORK ON ME--I TRIED IT. I EVEN TRIED STARVING MYSELF. I SIMPLY WENT TO SLEEP. AND I'M NOT COURAGEOUS ENOUGH TO JUMP OFF A BUILDING OR SHOOT MYSELF!
MARJORIE-- THE REASON I WAS ATTRACTED TO YOU IS THAT YOU WERE ALWAYS STRONG AND ALIVE. I SENSED YOUR PSYCHIC TORMENT, BUT SURELY YOU DON'T WANT TO DIE-- TO HAVE ME KILL YOU?!
NOT REALLY-- I SUPPOSE IF I THOUGHT THEY WOULD'VE WORKED, I WOULDN'T HAVE TRIED THEM. IT'S ACTUALLY NICE TO KNOW I'LL HAVE ALL THE TIME TO READ ALL THE BOOKS I WANT TO ..AND WITH NO ONE TAKING A SECOND LOOK AT A LIBRARIAN...
STEPHEN, IS THIS GOING TO GO ON FOREVER? AN INFINITY OF TIME, WATCHING OTHERS GROW OLD? WHY DID THIS HAPPEN TO ME?
I HEARD YOU GAVE UP MEDICINE AND BECAME A MYSTIC OR SOMETHING. I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU COULD EXPLAIN IT TO ME SOMEHOW!
I'VE BECOME A LITTLE MORE THAN THAT, MARJORIE--
--AS YOU CAN SEE!
MY GOODNESS!
AND IF I CAN HELP YOU, I WILL.
MY GOODNESS!
AND TO SOLVE THIS MYSTERY, I WILL NEED THAT.
MY-- BUBBLE-BLOWING KIT?
YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE FUTURE, MARJORIE - AN UNENDING FUTURE PERHAPS
BUT IN A VERY REAL SENSE, NEITHER THE PAST NOR THE FUTURE REALLY EXISTS. ALL WE HAVE IS THE PRESENT!
AND THE PRESENT IS AS DELICATE, EVANESCENT, AND FRAIL--
--AS A SOAP BUBBLE


CATCH
ARE YOU SER!--
OOF! IT'S AS HEAVY AS A STONE. A CRYSTAL BALL!
THIS PRESENT IS ALSO THE WINDOW ONTO BOTH THOSE OTHER MAGICKAL REALMS, MARJORIE. WITH OUR FOUR HANDS TOUCHING THIS MOMENT WE MAY BE TOWARDS--
--OUR ANSWERS--? HOSTS OF HOGGOTH! THIS SHOULD NOT BE HAPPENING!
IT SHOULD ONLY HAVE CONJURED UP A VISION-- NOT TRANSPORTED US--!
WE ARE STILL ON EARTH, THAT I CAN SENSE, BUT--
EARTH, HUH? THEN WOULD YOU MIND EXPLAINING THAT?!

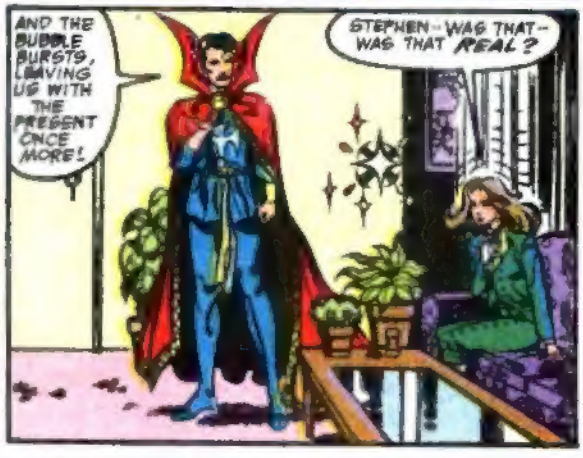

WOULD YOU MIND TELLING ME WHAT JUPITER IS DOING TAKING UP HALF THE SKY?!
I WOULD IF I COULD, MARJORIE!
WELL, IF THIS IS THE FUTURE, STEPHEN, I'M NOT PREPARED FOR IT!
STEPHEN, THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE COMPLETELY SAFE, ISN'T IT?
YOU'RE SAFE WITH ME, MARJORIE!
WHATEVER TONGUE YOU SPEAK, KNOW YOU THAT I AM DR STRANGE, MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS, AND I SHALL NOT BE MOVED NOR CONQUERED!
THAT IS NOT NECESSARY! WE MEAN YOU NO HARM THEY ARE FOR YOUR PROTECTION ONLY!
STEPHEN! THAT VOICE!
YOU CAME! I KNEW YOU'D COME! I KNEW IT WOULD BE TRUE!


THERE WON'T MUCH TIME TO EXPLAIN. WE ARE ABOUT TO LAUNCH OUR FIND ASSAULT ON THE DEMON SUN!
DEMON SUN?
BRIEFLY--AFTER MANKIND WENT OUT TO THE STARS, FLOURISHED AND RETURNED HOME TO LIVE OUT THEIR TWILIGHT YEARS THE SUN WENT MAD AND WAS TAKEN OVER BY A POWER NONE HAD EVER SEEN.
TO FLEE IT, WE MOVED THE PLANET OUTWARD TO ORBIT JUPITER, AUGMENTING JUPITER'S RADIATION TO SUSTAIN US. THE DEMON SUN CONSUMED THE INNER PLANETS AND THERE SEEMED TO BE NO STOPPING IT!
POOM
POOM
POOM
MANKIND HAD LOST THE KNOWLEDGE OF HOW TO FIGHT BACK. BUT I WAS THERE TO GIVE THEM BACK THEIR MEMORY!
WE HAVE FORGED A FLEET OF SHIPS NOT SEEN SINCE THE ASCENDANCE OF THE CITY OF K IN THE AGE OF TERROR.. BUT THIS IS THE FINAL HOUR--THE DEMON SUN IS STRIKING BACK!
NO! K'KYLTHRI!


IT SHALL NOT HAVE YOU!
FWOOSH!!
THEY HAVE FOUND ME! BUT AT THE LAST MOMENT! THE DEMON SUN CLEARS THE HORIZON!
CAREFUL, STEPHEN! AN UNSHIELDED TOUCH WILL MEAN ANNIHILATION! THEY ARE K'KYLTHRI -- PURE ANTI-LIFE!
THE SUN KNOWS THE FLEET WILL NOT FLY WITHOUT MY WORD AND WILL! THEY MUST KILL ME WITHIN MOMENTS!
YOU WILL HAVE THOSE MOMENTS! EVEN IN THIS TIME I HAVE POWER ENOUGH FOR THAT!
FLIGHT THREE, RIGHT ASCENSION 75! FLIGHT FIVE, RIGHT ASCENSION 226! FLIGHTS SEVEN NINE THROUGH FORTY-TWO, EVERY THIRD POINT! ALL EVEN FLIGHTS, PERFORMANCE GAMMA!
GO, MY CHILDREN!
THE SKY!
IT IS DONE! THEY ARE AWAY!

NOW THE BATTLE WILL BE WON OR LOST. THERE IS NOTHING MORE WE CAN DO!
BUT THEY WILL WIN, FOR HOWEVER FAR REMOVED, THEY ARE ALL, EACH AND EVERY ONE, MY CHILDREN.

TAKE CARE OF ME, STEPHEN. YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY-- THE FIRST HUNDRED YEARS ARE THE HARDEST!
I WILL!


AND THE BUBBLE BURSTS, LEAVING US WITH THE PRESENT ONCE MORE!
STEPHEN-- WAS THAT-- WAS THAT REAL?

THE FUTURE IS GIVEN TO MAN AT EVERY INSTANT, MARJORIE... AND LIKE ALL TRUE GIFTS IS NEVER CERTAIN, NEVER ALTOGETHER UNDERSTOOD.
WHAT WE SAW WAS MORE THAN A VISION-- BUT A DREAM, A TASTE OF WHAT MIGHT BE.

STEPHEN-- THAT WAS ME. THAT WAS. AND IF I CAN BE THAT-- EVEN POSSIBLY --IF I CAN BE THE MEMORY, THE LIVING PAST FOR A DISTANT FUTURE, THEN I CAN DEAL WITH ALL THE CENTURIES!
AFTER ALL, WHAT ARE LIBRARIANS FOR?

WHAT'S THAT, STEPHEN? DID SHE GIVE IT TO YOU?
YES, SHE DID. IT IS A MEMORY--
--A MEMORY OF GREAT COURAGE. AND A PROMISE!
THE END

MARVEL® READERS PRESENT

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016

Attention correspondents: All letters to be considered for publication must include your name and address though we will withhold that info by request!

TERRY KAVANAGH
Editor

KELLY CORVESE
Assistant Editor

Dear Terry,

Issue #50 of MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS was a very well-done milestone. The Larsen cover was excellent. I will assume that he managed to include everyone who appeared in the first 49 issues on the cover, but I'm not about to go back and verify it. Also, a fine job by Terry Austin, who does the best job of inking Erik's pencils.

Erik Larsen's work has really grown on me in the past several months and I have to admit that his work is refreshing. His style reminds me quite a bit of the '60s Marvel style without trying to copy anyone's technique.

Issue #50, if anything, was the Erik Larsen show, from the cover to the main feature which he wrote and penciled—by far the best of the four stories this issue.

Captain Ultra was better suited for WHAT THE—? as opposed to MCP, but it still afforded a few chuckles.

The Silver Surfer was an ill-conceived story that had above average artwork.

I have little use for the Comet Man series, but things may improve. At this point in time I'm not a big fan of Bill Murray and Miguel Ferrar's writing.

Charles S. Novinskie
P.O. Box 1323
Grand Junction, CO 81502

Ooh, that was a harsh one, Charles. Thanks for writing again, but we'd better get to our next letter and try to forget you wrote that. In other words—Danger Charles Novinskie, Danger Novinskie! Ha ha ha, we crack ourselves up sometimes (usually not anyone else though!)

Dear Marvel,

Okay, first things first. I like the change in the book's typeface because it's much cleaner and crisper than the previous type. Hopefully, it will last for the next 49 issues.

The 50th issue was magnificent (and I'm not just referring to Erik Larsen's artwork). The stories were wonderful! My favorite was Lobdell's Captain Ultra story because I was laughing so hard that my stomach hurt. What could be funnier than a comedian who possesses the deadly, heart-stopping ultra joke (except maybe a purple-clad person who eats planets for a living)? Mr. Lobdell's stories are always fresh and exciting. How about giving him a serial instead of more one-shots?

The beginning of the Comet Man series seems very promising. Although I'm not familiar with the character or his background, I'm sure the serial will be entertaining.

Since I also enjoyed Surfer's one-shot, it would seem that there was not a single thing I disliked about the issue. But, there was one thing, known as Wolverine. Now, I enjoy a good mutant story starring everyone's favorite X-Man, but I'm beginning to get sick from seeing his face (or any other body part) in this book. I feel that the Marvel Universe contains many characters who deserve to have their own serial but fail to get one because Wolvie is hogging the spotlight. So, please start to show more of these characters like Silver Sable, Beta Ray Bill, the Black Knight, Firelord, Puma, Rogue and Longshot. Think about it.

Peter Piotrowski
7831 South Natchez
Burbank, IL 60459

We have been thinking about it, Peter. That's why we made our request a few months back to see who the fans most want to see in this book (a request which you didn't seem to respond to, by the way, but we won't say anything). Anyway, it's possible that the poll will decide the future of this book, so keep reading. And on a more serious note, it's about time someone else recognized something that we've known for years now: Scott Lobdell is a comic genius. It's no accident that Scott wrote a story with the greatest comic character of all time. Scott understands comedy! And we understand the talent that Scott wields. You'll definitely see more stories from Scott in the future. And after that, who knows, if the demand is there, Scott may just land himself a regular book!

Dear Terry,

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS is truly the best comic published today. The best thing about MCP are its covers. They are always wonderfully illustrated (especially issue #50).

I wrote to MCP mainly to comment on the controversy of the one-shot stories. I personally love them, as do my friends who read comics. They give a brief look at rarely seen characters who might end up being boring if their stories were turned into four or eight-parters.

Another point to be brought up is that even if you don't like the character or the story, it's only one issue. In two weeks you'll get a whole new story which will probably be to your liking. With a long story (and I'm not saying you ever do any of those), you have to wait months to get rid of the bad ones.

Over all, I believe the one-shot stories should stay in MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS, as well as Wolverine. He is one of my favorite characters. I especially liked his recent story featuring Spider-Man. Erik Larsen showed us the way Wolverine should be portrayed.

Well, keep up the good work. Until Captain Ultra gets a better wardrobe, Make Mine Marvel!

Todd Craven
204 Rock Creek Drive
Benton, AR 72015

We appreciate your comments, Todd, and we'll see you in two weeks with another one-shot story!

Dear Terry,

As soon as I put down MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #50, I decided I had to write you a letter. Here are my comments on the four stories inside:

Wolverine and Spidey—Excellent art! Erik Larsen deserves a raise! This, in my opinion, has to be the best super hero combo ever. Too bad it was only a three parter. Oh, please let Wolvie depart from these pages for a while. It's turning into an X-Men solo book.

Comet Man—Although this is only the first part, Comet Man looks like it shall become very interesting. Way to go.

Captain Ultra—Get real. I mean, grade one-level entertainment.

Silver Surfer—Great. Give him a multi-parter please.

So, those are my comments. And I hope the next 50 issues will be even greater than the last. Here's some advice, though, get Erik Larsen for as many stories as you can. With him, you can't go wrong!

Dave Veilleux
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada

Thank you for writing, Dave. We'll try and get Erik back whenever we can. In the meantime, look for his work on AMAZING SPIDER-MAN.

Dear people,

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #50 was a great way to celebrate its 50th Anniversary.

—The Spidey Wolverine team-up was excellent. Mr. Larsen's art gets better. Plus, he's a darn good writer to boot!

—Captain Ultra was as fun as it was bizarre. Has he ever appeared anywhere besides MCP? His costume is so ugly that it's actually quite appealing.

—The Silver Surfer tale was okay. The art was really nice, though. Looks like Mr. Sparling was influenced by the great Ernie Colon.

A very good issue indeed. Oh, and thanks for putting the credits in a more ordered layout. I used to have to do a headstand to read the old placement. Much luck.

Lon Wolf
2118 Ryan's Run East
Maple Shade, NJ 08052

Glad you noticed the new credits, Lon. We're proud of them ourselves. As for Captain Ultra, you can check out his first appearance way back in FANTASTIC FOUR #177 (if you can get your hands on it). You can also see him in some issues of DEFENDERS and THOR. But we assure you that his most illustrious appearance was right here in these pages. And, by the way, Jack Sparling has been around the comics industry for a very long time . . .

A WOMAN FROM DOCTOR STRANGE'S PAST BRINGS HIM TO MEET HIS FUTURE!
SCARLET WITCH™ BATTLES IN THE BODY OF A PIRATE ANCESTOR!
A TOUCH OF POISON™...
Howell '90